

# **Friends of the Yolo Branch Library**

## **Our Efforts This Year**

October 2015 through September 2016

### **Continued to Work with Yolo County Library to Address Yolo Branch Library Building Needs**

- Worked with County Library and the architect to discuss building needs, as expressed by the community, in the survey conducted in the Fall of 2015 and in community meetings held in September, October and November.
- In October, we formed a Community Advisory Committee with members from Yolo, Zamora, Dunnigan and the surrounding area. The Committee held five meetings to discuss building options and guide the architect in understanding the communities' needs.
- Insight from County Library staff was also gathered to further understand what is needed to design a vibrant, practical space for community members to explore and learn.
- Three general design concepts were developed for the current constrained site. One adds on to the current building, while the other two envision a new building.
- As part of this effort, basic building issues were examined, including physical condition of the current building, flood zone designation, septic system impacts, and other regulatory requirements.
- The next step is an Environmental Impact Study (EIR), which will focus on the building's historic designation. The initial phase of this study will occur over the next three to six months. A second (and final) phase will follow, based on the results, for the initial work.
- We will continue to keep the community posted along the way.

### **Supported the Expansion of Library Hours**

We were very pleased that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors provided funding to expand the Yolo Branch Library's hours. The library is now open on Saturdays from noon to 5:00, in addition to Tuesdays 1:00-5:30 and Thursdays 10:00-noon & 1:00-5:30. Hours were determined through a survey of community preferences. The County Library is planning to add hours in the near future.

### **Provided Funding for Summer Learning Events**

Bubble Mania – Families had a lot of fun creating bubble makers, testing different bubble blowers, and experimenting with with different bubble recipes.

Pepe the Bilingual Magician – Children of all ages participated in this fun-filled show of magic tricks and slight of hand.

Tinkering 101 – Energy ran wild as families used a wide variety of objects to make anything they could imagine. Pieces of foam, cardboard, and buttons became marble runs, crazy creatures and works of art.

Fit to Sing – This sing-along, move-along event gave families an opportunity to try different instruments, learn songs, and play American Indian drums.

Rubbing Alcohol & Ink Tiles – Children learned about color while using special inks to create beautiful tiles.

The Corny Crow Show – Families were amazed by the antics of a ventriloquist and his Corny Crow partner.

Each activity was based on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math).

### **Supported the Teen Program throughout the Year**

With the Friends of the Davis Branch Library, provided funding for food and materials for monthly “Teen Takeover” nights. Teens work with library staff to plan activities. This year, the teens discussed issues affecting their lives, such as Presidential politics, career possibilities, and how personal electronics impact social engagement. They also learned: playing with trivia, engineering strategy games, examining objects under a stereo microscope and other STEAM activities. A highlight was meeting with Doug Davis, the architect who is working on the library building. He asked them to talk about what they would like to see in our library. He then talked about being an architect, showed them some of the tools he uses, and discussed careers in architecture.

### **Co-Sponsored the Spring Celebration with Cache Creek High School**

For the third year, the Friends co-sponsored a Spring Celebration for local youth and families. The Cache Creek High School youth put on a wonderful Easter egg hunt, followed by a wide variety of fun games. The Friends donated many of the supplies, provided each youth with a free book, and sold refreshments. Nearly 100 children participated.

### **Began Supporting Library Events Throughout the Year**

Beginning in January the Friends were able to provide funds to support special events and ongoing activities throughout the year. This included sugar skull decorating for the Dia de Los Muertos in October and a performance of Taiko drummers for Dia de los Ninos in April, as well as supplies to support everyday activities at the library.

### **Planned Our First Major Fund Raising Event**

A team of Friends’ Board members, community members, and Library staff worked together to plan “Cruisin’ into the Next Chapter” - a classic car and truck show paired with a free family fun day. The event planned for August 27 promises to bring our communities together, increase awareness about the Yolo Branch Library and its Friends, as well as raise funds to support library activities.

### **Pursued Grant Funding**

- Received a grant from the Davis Oddfellows to support Library activities.
- Identified two other potential funding sources. Grant applications will be prepared this fall.

**Participated in County-wide Efforts**

Attended the Read for Success Conference to learn more about how we can contribute to early literacy,

**Check our website frequently for news of upcoming events & activities**

<http://www.friendsofyololibrary.org/>

**Follow us on**

[www.facebook.com/friendsofyololibrary](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofyololibrary).